

Amendments To The Specification:

On page 48, delete the Abstract in its entirety and replace it with the following Abstract

Nanocomposite reinforced polymer blends used to produce tubing with unexpected higher modulus accompanied by enhanced dimensional stability and ductility. This invention deals specifically with polymer blends which are reinforced utilizing nanocomposite polymers mixed with other polymers, most particularly, with block copolymers and other nanocomposite polymers in such a manner that unique and unexpected combinations of modulus, ductility, and dimensional stability are obtained. We have discovered that the chemistry and crystalline form of the two materials blended together must follow specific guidelines in order to achieve unique results. The two components used to construct the nanocomposite polymer blend can simply be pellet blended prior to tube extrusion or precompounded by standard compounding methods. The invention is directed primarily towards those applications such as catheters and balloons and we have also discovered other attributes pertaining to improved surface properties such as lubricity and lower dirt retention.